



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,145	04/11/2001	Koichi Tamura	S004-4277	1619

7590
ADAMS & WILKS
31st Floor
50 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

10/17/2003

EXAMINER

ABRAMS, NEIL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2839

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

Applicant(s)

Examiner

N. Abrams

Group Art Unit

2839

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12-2-02 prelim amdt
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 2839

Note new art unit, A.U. 2839.

Title is unclear and not directed to invention. Terms --X-ray apparatus with shunting cover for end of coaxial cable-- suggested. Other terms could be used if more applicable and "coaxial" omitted is not considered basic to the invention.

Abstract, line 4 should read --between a coaxial cable core and shield having a connector-
- line 5 "open" should be --open or not in use-- and line 10 "conduct" should be --become electrically joined or shunted--.

Claims, reference to device as a "shunting cover for a coaxial (or shielded) cable end connector cable when not in use" or equivalent suggested to more clearly define the invention along with arguments that Jackson adapter not a cover.

Claims 2, 3 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 2, recitation of shield being "in electrical contact with the core" seems incorrect, since such contact "only" occurs after the sheath is applied to the cable but claim 1 is directed to cable and sheath before being joined. Also the sheath should be recited as conductive or having conductive portions. Claim 4, line 3, "the core" seems incorrect, such contact only occurring after the sheath is applied to the cable. Claim 8, line 3 is unclear, as in case of claim 1, on line 4, "such that" seems improper.

Art Unit: 2839

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dumire.

Dumire discloses a system with cable 10, fixing screw 33, ~~not~~atable to sheath 30 (or 30, 37 jointly) which is to cover end of core 13 and a conductor 36 formed at an inner surface of sheath 30 (or 30, 37). Note that the conductor 36 is not required to be in electrical contact with the sheath nor is the sheath required to be conductive.

For claims 1, 7, 12 the Dumire cable is not disclosed to be for use with x-ray equipment or to be for "high-voltage". Both aspects are admittedly known for cable use and to use the Dumire system in such environment would be an obvious change. Claims 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 clearly met by Dumire applied as above.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dumire in view of Jackson.

Dumire cable 10 with screw 33 and core 13 is applied. Obvious to use the cable for x-ray devices and high voltage as discussed above. Dumire cable and sheath 30 lack (claims 2-4) means to connect core to shield. Jackson shows a connector at 12, 13 with conductor 12, 18, 19 for connecting cable core to cable shield (prior to connection at end 11, 14). Obvious to use such system with Dumire cable, such Jackson adapter, part 2 acting as a sheath that would surround the core with core joined to shielding wire by means 12, 10, 18, 19. This would enable use of a constant impedance system.

Art Unit: 2839

Claims 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lombard alone or taken in view of Dumire and Bliss and Peterson.

Lombard discloses a connector 12 used with a cable and with pins 20 and fixing member at bayonets 22 and threads 14, fig. 8, and a cover with a sheath 26 having a conductor 34. Alternatively arms 50 are read as a sheath having (being integral with) a conductor for engaging pins 20. Term core is not seen to define over Lombard pins since wire core could typically be used in such pins as in Bliss or used as the pins as in Dumire. This would only be use of standard expedients. Claims 9, 10 met by Lombard and claims 1, 12, references to x-ray devices, defines obvious usage. For claims 1, 11, fig. 8 shows threaded part on 14 readable as a screw.

Should issues arise as to cable connection feature, both Peterson and Dumire show connectors joined to cables. Obvious to so apply the Lombard connector as is typical in the art.

Claims 2, 3, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lombard in view of Bliss, Dumire and Peterson.

References are applied as discussed above. Lombard does not use a shielded cable. Such type cable joined to a connector is shown by Peterson, fig. 1, 3. Obvious to use Lombard connector 12 on such a cable with the shield joined to the fixing member as in Peterson figs. 1, 3 at 14, 25, 16, 38. Such shield use is for lessening EMI interference with the cable. Joining the cap to such cable would shunt the pins to the cable shield.

Stabile cited, similar to Jackson disclosure.

Application/Control Number: 09/833,145


Page 5

Art Unit: 2839

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to N. Abrams at
telephone number 308-1729.

Abrams/ek

10/15/03


NEIL ABRAMS
EXAMINER
ART UNIT 322